



Disaster News Release

Federal Disaster Loans for Economic Injury

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For More Information

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SBA DISASTER LOANS AVAILABLE FOLLOWING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE DISASTER DESIGNATION

COLUMBUS, OH - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced today that federal disaster loans are available to small, non-farm, agriculture-dependent businesses in several primary and contiguous counties in the state of Ohio. Additionally, this declaration also makes these loans available to businesses in counties of various adjacent states.

“SBA’s disaster declaration was issued as a result of a similar action taken by the Secretary of Agriculture to help farmers recover from damages and losses to crops caused by excess rain, lightning, high winds, flooding, hail, a tornado, and excess moisture that occurred from May 1, 2004 and continuing,” said SBA Disaster Area Director, Michael C. Allen.

Under this declaration, SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small agriculture-dependent businesses and small agricultural cooperatives that suffered economic injury as a direct result of the weather’s effect on agricultural producers. For example, a business that sells goods/services to agricultural producers may be unable to pay bills and/or meet expenses because of the reduced purchasing power of the farmers and ranchers.

Eligible small businesses may qualify for loans up to \$1.5 million. These loans are available at a 2.750 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. SBA determines eligibility for the program based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. Under this disaster declaration, SBA does not provide loans to agricultural producers, and cannot provide loans to non-agricultural dependent businesses.

The declaration designates the following primary and contiguous counties and adjacent states: (Contiguous counties are eligible because they are adjacent to one or more primary counties and SBA recognizes that disasters don’t usually stop at county or state lines).

PRIMARY OHIO COUNTIES:

Excess rain, lightning, high winds, flooding, hail, and a tornado that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

Allen	Coshocton	Greene	Hocking	Mahoning	Tuscarawas
Athens	Crawford	Guernsey	Holmes	Medina	Union
Carroll	Cuyahoga	Hancock	Jackson	Noble	Wayne
Columbiana	Fayette	Henry	Logan	Perry	

Excess moisture that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

Ashtabula	Fairfield	Logan	Morgan	Portage	Summit
Defiance	Geauga	Lorain	Muskingum	Sandusky	Van Wert
Delaware	Lake	Lucas	Ottawa	Scioto	Wood
Erie	Licking	Marion	Paulding	Seneca	Wyandot

CONTIGUOUS OHIO COUNTIES:

Excess rain, lightning, high winds, flooding, hail, and a tornado that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

Ashland	Franklin	Knox	Monroe	Richland	Vinton
Auglaize	Fulton	Lake	Montgomery	Ross	Warren
Belmont	Gallia	Lawrence	Morgan	Scioto	Washington
Champaign	Geauga	Licking	Morrow	Seneca	Williams
Clark	Hardin	Lorain	Muskingum	Shelby	Wood
Clinton	Harrison	Lucas	Pickaway	Stark	Wyandot
Defiance	Highland	Madison	Pike	Summit	
Delaware	Huron	Marion	Portage	Trumbull	
Fairfield	Jefferson	Meigs	Putnam	Van Wert	

Excess moisture that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

Adams	Coshocton	Hancock	Knox	Noble	Stark
Allen	Crawford	Hardin	Lawrence	Perry	Trumbull
Ashland	Cuyahoga	Henry	Mahoning	Pickaway	Union
Athens	Franklin	Hocking	Medina	Pike	Washington
Auglaize	Fulton	Huron	Mercer	Putnam	Wayne
Champaign	Guernsey	Jackson	Morrow	Shelby	Williams

CONTIGUOUS COUNTIES IN ADJACENT STATES:

Excess rain, lightning, high winds, flooding, hail, and a tornado that occurred from May 1, 2004 and continuing:

PENNSYLVANIA

Beaver	Lawrence	Mercer
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WEST VIRGINIA

Hancock	Wood
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Excess moisture that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

INDIANA

Adams	Allen	Dekalb
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KENTUCKY

Greenup	Lewis
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CONTIGUOUS COUNTIES IN ADJACENT STATES, continued

Excess moisture that occurred from May 1, 2004, and continuing:

MICHIGAN

Lenawee Monroe

PENNSYLVANIA

Crawford Erie

“SBA can help these small businesses overcome their economic injuries by offering these working capital loans, but the help can’t start until they apply,” Allen added.

Interested business owners should contact the SBA Disaster Area 2 Office at One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308, or call 1-800-359-2227 for more information and to obtain a loan application. **Loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than April 27, 2005.**

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Information about the disaster program is available on SBA’s homepage at www.sba.gov/disaster